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DATE: February 28, 2006
FILE NO: WEST/0006
TO: Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
Examiner: Timothy Lewis Maust
Group Art: 3751

FAX NO: 571-273-8300

COMPANY: USPTO

FROM: Walter C. Grollitsch WCG

PAGE(S) with cover: 12

ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW? ☐ YES ☒ NO

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 29, 2005

TITLE: ACETYLENE CYLINDER MANIFOLD ASSEMBLY
U.S. SERIAL NO.: 10/681,629
CUSTOMER NO.: 26290
FILING DATE: October 8, 2003
INVENTOR: W. Dan Hord, III, et al.
EXAMINER: Timothy Lewis Maust
GROUP ART UNIT: 3751
CONFIRMATION NO.: 6109

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FEB 28 2006

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. WEST/0006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

W. Dan Hord, III, et al.

Serial No.: 10/681,629

Confirmation No.: 6109

Filed: October 8, 2003

For: ACETYLENE CYLINDER
MANIFOLD ASSEMBLY§
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Group Art Unit: 3751

Examiner: Timothy Lewis Maust

Customer No.: 26,290

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P.O. Box 1450
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Dear Sir:

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on, <u>28 Feb. 2006</u> .	
<u>W. Dan Hord, III</u> Signature	
<u>Walter C. Grollitsch</u> Typed Name or Printed Name	
<u>48.678</u> Registration No., if applicable	<u>(713) 623-4844</u> Telephone Number

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 29, 2005

In response to the Final Office Action dated December 29, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 29, 2006, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicants believe that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEST/0006/WCG for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.